



*Council  
Orig to S. Ludlow*

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

DUCHY TRACHTENBERG  
COUNCILMEMBER  
AT-LARGE

November 2, 2007

Isiah Leggett  
Montgomery County Executive  
Executive Office Building  
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor  
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Mr. Leggett,

I write to share my concerns with you about the Takoma Station Joint Development project under consideration by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's Board of Directors.

My staff has met with members of the Takoma Park community and researched the concerns that have been expressed about the proposed townhouse development. I support your efforts to address the pedestrian access and safety issues as well as the handicapped access concerns raised in your letter to WMATA General Manager Catoe of October 4, 2007. In addition, the planning work by the City of Takoma Park identified in your October 23, 2007 letter raises the bar in pedestrian design options and rightly challenges WMATA with creative and substantive improvements to the plan.

I have had a longstanding interest in increasing housing opportunities near Metro stations in a manner that enhances the pedestrian environment. "Pedestrianization" of our diverse communities requires effort and skill to make neighborhoods walkable in a manner that builds upon the special attributes of place that differ in character across the County.

In the future, I believe that WMATA's improved approach to joint development projects will result in better participation by locally affected communities. I understand the unease neighbors feel by the history of participation in this project. I therefore ask that you consider allowing a member of my staff to monitor the meeting scheduled for Monday, November 5 on this project.

It is my hope that with the help of your staff our communities' concerns for pedestrian and handicapped access will be resolved with WMATA prior to the scheduled vote on the project this coming Thursday, November 8. As this is an interjurisdictional matter I am confident of your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Duchy Trachtenberg', written over a horizontal line.

Duchy Trachtenberg  
Councilmember-at-large

cc: The Hon. Kathy Porter, Mayor, City of Takoma Park  
John B. Catoe, Jr, General Manager, WMATA  
Gordon Linton, WMATA Board Member  
Peter Benjamin, WMATA Board Member